No Objection to Declassification in Full 2010/08/24 : LOC-HAK-548-6-10-6

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TO RODMAN/LORD FOR DR KISSINGER

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T O P S E C R E T SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD WH30504

TOHAK158

OSD Review Completed

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE

CONTAINS CODEWORD

FEBRUARY 14, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER

MORI/CDF C03339880

SUBJECT: INFORMATION ITEMS

TOP SECRET

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SITUATION IN INDOCHINA: THE NUMBER OF CEASE-FIRE INCIDENTS INCREASED SOMEWHAT AS 31 MAJOR AND 162 MINOR VIOLATIONS WERE REPORTED. TOTAL CASUALTIES YESTERDAY WERE 168 ENEMY AND 31 SOUTH VIETNAMESE KIA.

ACTIVITY IN NORTHERN MILITARY REGION 1 REMAINED AT A LOW LEVEL. MARINE AND TERRITORIAL FORCES REPORTED KILLING 39 VIET CONG INFILTRATORS AND CAPTURING 25. ATTACKS-BY-FIRE AGAINST THE AIRBORNE DIVISION AREA DECREASED TO 271 ROUNDS AND ONLY ONE ENEMY-INITIATED GROUND ATTACK WAS REPORTED. THE ATTACK TO RECAPTURE SA HUYNH MADE LITTLE PROGRESS AGAINST STRONG ENEMY RESISTANCE.

ACTIVITY IN MILITARY REGION 2 WAS REPORTED AT A LOW LEVEL. SEVERAL ENEMY ATTACKS-BY-FIRE AND GROUND ATTACKS KEPT ROUTE 14 BETWEEN KONTUM AND PLEIKU CLOSED.

ENEMY ACTIVITY IN MILITARY REGION 3 CONTINUED AT A LOW LEVEL WITH NO MAJOR GROUND CONTACTS REPORTED. HOWEVER, THE 46TH ARVN REGIMENT HEADQUARTERS, 2 KILOMETERS SOUTH OF TRI TAM, RECEIVED SIX 122-MM ROCKETS WHICH DESTROYED ONE 105-MM HOWITZER, 2,000 ROUNDS OF AMMUNITION, AND OTHER ZMUIPMENT.

ACTIVITY IN THE DELTA INCREASED SLIGHTLY OVER THE PREVIOUS R LOW REPORTED YESTERDAY. INCIDENTS WERE IN THE NATURE OF LOW INTENSITY HARASSMENT OCCURRING MOSTLY IN DINH TUONG AND CHUONG THIEN PROVINCES.

IN CAMBODIA, THE ENEMY MAINTAINED THE INITIATIVE. SOUTHEAST OF PHNOM PENH, ARMY COUNTERATTACKS NORTHWARD ALONG ROUTE 15 FROM NEAK LUONG CONTINUED TO BE BLOCKED. FRIENDLY CASUALTIES MOUNTED, AND MORE THAN 100 WOUNDED MEN WERE EVACUATED. NAVAL GUNBOATS SUPPORTED THE GOVERNMENT TROOPS AND PROVIDED COVER FOR BOATS MOVING REINFORCEMENTS TO NEAK LUONG FROM THE CAPITAL. DESPITE REINFORCEMENTS AND NAVAL GUNBOAT SUPPORT, FRIENDLY UNITS WERE UNABLE TO REOCCUPY THE 2-MILE STRETCH OF ROUTE 1 BETWEEN NEAK LUONG AND PHNOM PENH HELD BY THE CAMBODIAN INSURGENTS.

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SOUTH OF THE CAPITAL, THE COMMUNISTEZCONTINUED TO CUT ROUTE 2 NEAR THNAL TOTUNG AND CHAMBAK WITH INTERDICTION FIRE, BUT NO POSITIONS THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTED LOST. ELSEWHERE, THE ENEMY INCREASED HIS ATTACKS-BY-FIRE ON THE DEFENSIVE PERIMETER OF KOMPONG THOM CITY. TROOPS DEFENDING THE SOUTHERN SECTOR HAVE PULLED BACK ABOUT ONE MILE.

THE MILITARY SITUATION IN LAOS REMAINS UNCHANGED AS FRIENDLY FORCES ARE CONSOLIDATING THEIR HOLD ON PAKSONG IN ANTICIPATION OF STRONG ENEMY COUNTERATTACKS. THERE WERE 322 TACTICAL AIR ATTACK SORTIES AND 87 B-52 SORTIES FLOWN AGAINST TARGETS IN LAOS.

OTHER CEASE-FIRE DEVELOPMENTS: ONE HUNDRED THIRTEEN U.S. MILITARY PERSONNEL AND SEVEN U.S. CIVILIANS ARE NOW IN THE JOINT HOMECOMING RECEPTION CENTER AT CLARK AIR FORCE BASE AND TWENTY-TWO ARE HOMEWARD BOUND. THE PROCESSING AT THE CENTER IS PROCEEDING ON SCHEDULE AND THE MEN ARE IN GOOD SPIRITS, EATING WELL, AND LOOKING FORWARD TO THEIR RETURN TO THE U.S. AT THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT BRIEFING YESTERDAY, IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE DRV HAS AGREED TO RELEASE TWENTY ADDITIONAL POWS IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. THERE WERE NO ENEMY POW RELEASES/REPATRIATIONS ON FEBRUARY 13. THE PRG HAS AGREED TO ACCEPT POWS TODAY AND RVNAF HAS REQUESTED U.S. AIRLIFT SUPPORT TO TRANSPORT OVER 800 SICK AND WOUNDED NVA/VC POWS TO REPATRIATION POINTS IN LOC NINH AND QUANG TRI.

EXCEPT FOR DELAYS IN NORTHERN MILITARY REGION 1 DUE TO POOR SECURITY, ALL ESSENTIAL CONSTRUCTION WORK HAS BEEN COMPLETED AT THE FOUR PARTY JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION HEADQUARTERS IN SAIGON AND ALL REGIONAL SITES, WITH SOME WORK REMAINING TO BE COMPLETED IN ONE OR TWO DAYS. THE SENIOR MILITARY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FOUR ICCS DELEGATIONS DEPARTED SAIGON YESTERDAY FOR A TWO-DAY TOUR OF THE SEVEN REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS SITES.

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